

Subcommittee on Ground Water

Monday May 20, 2019

Noon Eastern, 11 Central, 10 Mountain and 9 am Pacific

To Connect Via Phone: Dial – 1-855-547-8255 (toll free), Access Code 27422#

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Attachment 1 – Draft Agenda for Monday May 20, 2019

Attachment 2 – Draft SOGW Minutes – Monday, April 15, 2019

Attachment 3 -- High Plains aquifer assessment data and the NGWMN

Time	Topic	Discussion Leader
Noon	<p>Welcome and Attendance (attendees are listed in bold type)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill Cunningham, federal co-chair, USGS representative* • Bob Schreiber, non-federal co-chair, ASCE representative* • Lauren Schapker, executive secretary, NGWA • Brandon Kernen, ASDWA representative, Darrel Osterhoudt, alternate* • Cary Betz, State Representative* • Chris Carlson, Forest Service* • Dave Langseth, NGWA representative* • Kara Goodwin, EPA representative* • Mary Musick, GWPC representative* • Dave Wunsch, AASG representative* • Jeffrey Davis, Barr • Adam Hobson, In-Situ • Treasure Bailey, EPA Region 8 • Tim Parker, Parker Groundwater • Daryll Pope, USGS • Dave Larson, Retired, IL St. Geo Survey • Joe Fillingham and/or Marian Singer, WellIntel • Kathleen Fultz, Water Quality Association • Chuck Job, NGWA • Rick Copeland, FL DEP • Johanna Kovarik, Forest Service • Candice Hopkins, USGS • Lori Huntoon, ASTM • Tom Nicholson, NRC • Joe Gurrieri, USFS • Lily Barkau, WY DEQ • Luke Buckley, MT Bureau of Mines and Geology • Chuck Schalk, USGS • Adrienne Bartlewitz, USGS • Joe Williams, US EPA ORD • John LaFave, MT Bureau of Mines and Geology 	Bob

* Voting organization representative/alternate per Terms of Reference

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dan Sullivan, DFO, USGS acting ACWI Coordinator • Alan Kolok, University of Idaho • Alice McCarthy, USGS • Kris McSwain, USGS • Janae Wallace, Utah Geological Survey (web) 	
12:05	<p>Call Purpose – Bob shared the purpose.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Status Report: ACWI Update 2. Status Report: NGWMN Cooperative Agreements 3. Status Report: NGWMN Portal 4. SOGW Workgroups 5. Preview of future agenda item. 6. Outreach Report 	Bob
	Business Portion	
12:07 P	<p>Approval of agenda – additions/deletions (Attachment 1) Opportunity to add to the agenda</p> <p>Kris McSwain introduced herself as the new ACWI Coordinator. She will be starting ½ time on June 24, and full time July 22, 2019. Her current position is GW Specialist at the South Atlantic Water Science Center (SAWSC). Her current job is Groundwater Specialist in the SAWSC of the USGS. Raleigh, NC is her duty station, and Raleigh will remain her duty station in her new position.</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Approve agenda</p>	Bob
12:09 P	<p>Approval of previous minutes. (Attachment 2)</p> <p>Minutes from the April meeting were approved by unanimous consent.</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Approve minutes</p>	Bob
	SOGW Work Items	
12:10 P	<p>Status Report: ACWI Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACWI Membership – the list of organization nominees is still being vetted by the USGS. The organizations will then go forwarded to the Department of the Interior for vetting. The USGS is seeking a mix of Fed/State/NGO members. USGS will identify about 20-25 members of the 35 permitted, with the plan to add members so their terms are staggered. Once the list is sent to forward to the DOI, the DOI will take up to 6 months to approve them. • Annual Meeting status – there is nothing to report on this. A meeting is pending selection of the ACWI Membership. The DFA (Dan) noted that ongoing efforts can continue. New efforts need to wait for the ACWI to be re-instated. <p>Expected Outcome: Information Exchange</p>	Dan
12:11 P	<p>Status Report: Cooperative Agreements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing cooperative agreements – Daryll reported just some normal interaction to report. Nothing unusual. • Reminder of FY19 Program Announcement II (May 31) – Daryll reminded the SOGW that if anyone knows of anyone interested in this second FY19 Call, please share ASAP. It's getting late. He 	Daryll

	<p>has heard from 2 new agencies, and one looks very strong. This is very positive. He asked for feedback from the SOGW on one example -- a small town with an ASR project. Are they eligible? What feedback would we give them? Any thoughts? Mary replied that she'd be interested in any WQ they could contribute. Bob posed the question to Rick Copeland for his perspective, due to the prevalence of ASR wells in FL. Rick suggest that we should encourage their participation. Cary said the state of TX would be very interested in including these types of wells. Daryll was encouraged by the feedback. The Program Board will meet remotely the second week of June, maybe the 3rd week of June to vet the 2nd call.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New proposals/Award status – first round (17) of FY19 awards are in progress. • Changes to 2020 Program Announcement – Daryll reported that they are really close to getting that into Department of Interior review. Major change was to change objectives 1 and 2. Objective 1 will be adjusted to cover new data providers only. Objective 2 will be for persistent data providers. The other major change is that there will be no match requirement for objective 1 and 2. Daryll is still waiting for the USGS Office of Acquisition and Grants to get back to us on the Tribe issue (allowing Tribes to submit proposals). Because DOI “Secretarial Clearance” can take from 2-5 months, we can’t afford to wait too much longer for an OAG ruling on Tribes. Bill suggested that perhaps we could move forward as is, and adjust after the fact (allow Tribes to submit even if it’s not specifically stated in the RFP)? Daryll agreed – not preferred, but perhaps. • Adding High Plains aquifer sites (Attachment 3) – Daryll introduced attachment 3—it has details of this topic. Last year, we asked 6 High Plains states to apply for funds to address the needs described in the attachment. The density is still within the 2015 guidance. Classification is fairly easy—they are surveillance sites (measured every 2 years), and they are under “known changes”. Four of the 6 sates applied for funding. All of them came up with that questionable out “required metadata” for these sites, as described in the attachment. The SOGW provided some feedback on the approach. There was general agreement that (1) metadata on sites should be “relatively complete”, but we don’t clearly define “relatively”. A site with little to no metadata should not be in the Network. We need to keep some flexibility that will allow a site to be added to the Network (even the HP Network), with incomplete metadata with the understanding that the Data Provider would add metadata over time. Bill pointed out that, since 2015, we have essentially taken that approach, because some of the Objectives in the annual RFP cover just that. <p>Expected Outcome: Information Exchange; SOGW approves PA.</p>	
12:35 P	<p>Status Report: NGWMN Portal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of ongoing work – not a lot to report. Team has been tied up on another USGS project. Candice mentioned that the NGWMN portal will be deployed to the cloud in the future. They found some issues during testing of the Statistical map under 	Candice

	<p>development. A developer is working on fixing the issues. Within the next month or two, we hope that capability will be deployed to the public. (goal).</p> <p>Expected Outcome: Information Exchange:</p>	
12:40P	<p>SOGW Workgroups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GW Quantity/Use -- Daryll asked if he could arrange a call to generate a charter, or is that “new work”. Bill, Dan, and Candice agreed that it’s not new. We can continue to make preparations for full ACWI approval of Work Groups. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rick Copeland volunteered to participate in this draft work group. Groundwater/Surface Water Exchange-- Mary suggested that this is a good idea, but she doesn’t know if there is anyone to pickup on the GW/SW. Mary and Kara volunteered to re-start the planning. Treasure Bailey also volunteered. Citizen Science Groundwater Levels or Quality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nothing reported. Rick Copeland volunteered to participate in this draft work group. GW Modeling – Bill shared the progress on this group, reporting that there is a <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skeleton WG Charter Participants Upcoming meeting opportunities – USGS has proposed a 1-hour workshop at the December GW Week meeting. USGS will present recent development, and short and intermediate plans. USGS will then solicit feedback on those priorities, and ask for additional. Brandon Kernen volunteered to participate in this draft work group. <p>Expected Outcome: Information Exchange</p>	WG Leads
12:49 P	<p>Future Agenda Items</p> <p>Bill introduced these two future agenda items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secondary Hydrogeologic Regions of the Conterminous United States https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/gwat.12806 Next SOGW F2F meeting <p>Expected Outcome: Information Exchange</p>	Bob/Bill
12:50 P	<p>Outreach Report</p> <p>Upcoming Outreach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal Remediation Technologies Roundtable Meeting, May 22, 2019, “Modeling in Support of Site Remediation”, Reston, VA https://frtr.gov/meetings.htm. <p>Tom Nicholson is the co-chair of this meeting. Bill and Bob will be attending this meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GWPC Annual Forum, September 15-17, 2019, Oklahoma City, OK. Abstract deadline May 20 	<p>Bob Tom</p> <p>Mary</p>

	<p>Mary reported that the call closes today. If they have a burning topic after May 20, contact Mary (but not too far after the date). She may be able to get it on the agenda. There is a session on GW monitoring and data management. Several topics of interest for the SOGW, including PFAS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGWA Groundwater Week, December 3-5, 2019 Las Vegas, NV <p>Abstract deadline passed in April. Probably will not have an NGWMN based gathering.</p> <p>Other past or upcoming events to share?</p> <p>Candice Hopkins will be speaking to the ID GW Monitoring technical committee (GW and WQ) on June 13th. NGWMN and how that folds into open water data infrastructure. ID is not in the network yet. Candice reported that they might apply once their database is capable.</p> <p>Schalk reported that starting Wed-Th-Fri there is a national soil moisture workshop in KS. They are tasked to come up with a strategy for a national network. They are looking at NGWMN as the model for that.</p>	Bob
	Adjourn	
1:00 P	Next Meeting—Monday, June 17, 2019	Bob

Status of New Directions SOGW Workgroups		
Group topic	Group lead	Group status
GW Quantity and Usage	Daryll Pope	Pending ACWI approval; may adjust based on future Subcommittee? The group is not interested in playing a role in citizen science, however it will work to ensure groundwater in a part of the conversation in water use discussions. They will also provide advice on groundwater use data collection.
Citizen Science	Bill Cunningham	Pending ACWI approval; initial stages. While the federal government can play an important role in “intellectual infrastructure” this is predominantly a local topic. The group will keep in touch with the NWQMC’s voluntary monitoring group.
GW/SW Interaction	Tim Parker Mary and Kara volunteered to lead this group	Pending ACWI approval; have had initial calls. Discussed educational importance and the importance of mapping or overlays to better demonstrate a connection. Groundwater dependent ecosystems. Terminology was also discussed in determining groundwater’s interest in surface water. Encourage interagency collaboration.
GW Modeling	Bill Cunningham	Pending ACWI approval; still seeking volunteers (Cunningham, Schreiber, Job, Davis, Nicholson, USGS staff...). Strawman charter started.

Attachment 1

		Coordination with NGWA and others is ongoing. WG can influence federal model development and applications, and play a role in enhancing communication between modelers and others.
Outreach?		